



# Bureau of Land Management

Utah  
News

GREEN RIVER DISTRICT OFFICE  
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[HTTP://WWW.BLM.GOV/UT/ST/EN.HTML](http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en.html)

For Immediate Release  
May 12, 2014

Media Contact: Megan Crandall, 801-539-4020

## BLM Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Energy Route

**Vernal, Utah**—The Bureau of Land Management Vernal Field Office is seeking comments during a 30-day comment period for a proposal to construct the Ashley Valley Energy Route approximately five miles south of Vernal, Utah.

Uintah County has filed a right-of-way application seeking authorization to build a new roadway in a 300-foot wide right-of-way that would extend from US 40 at the McCoy Flat area along 6500 South to US 40 south of Naples. The proposed route crosses 3.16 miles of BLM-administered land, 5.2 miles of School and Institutional Trust lands, and 3.9 miles of private land. This roadway would accommodate heavy commercial traffic volumes which are expected to increase with the growth of the oil and gas industry. A map and newsletter summarizing the project are located at: [https://www.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa\\_register.do](https://www.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do).

In conjunction with the scoping period, a public scoping open house will be held on June 5, 2014 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Vernal City Building Community Room. Representatives from the BLM and the proponent will be present during the meeting to talk face-to-face with members of the public, listen to any concerns, and answer questions about the project. The format of the meeting will be “open house” (come at any time, no formal presentation, no open microphone).

The BLM encourages the public to provide written comments on specific issues and concerns regarding the proposal. Written comments will help determine the issues to be addressed in the Environmental Assessment. All comments will be carefully reviewed and considered and become part of the official record. Please reference “Ashley Valley Energy Route” when submitting comments.

Written comments must be submitted by June 12, 2014, by any of the following methods:

- In person at the scoping meeting or the Vernal BLM Field Office
- U.S. Mail:  
Vernal Field Office, BLM  
ATTN: Stephanie Howard  
170 South 500 East  
Vernal, Utah 84078
- E-mail: [blm\\_ut\\_vernal\\_comments@blm.gov](mailto:blm_ut_vernal_comments@blm.gov)
- Project website:

[https://www.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa\\_register.do](https://www.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do)

To submit a comment on the above webpage, choose the “Advanced Search” hyperlink, and in the “Project Name” field type in “Ashley Valley Energy Route.” Open the project website and click on the “Comment on Document” button. A newsletter summarizing the project and a map can also be found on this website.

Before including an address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in any comments, be aware that the entire comment—including personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. Requests to withhold personal identifying information from public review can be submitted, but the BLM cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so. The BLM will not consider anonymous comments. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

For additional project-specific information, please contact Stephanie Howard at (435)781-4469. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to leave a message or question with the above individual. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Replies are sent during normal business hours.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2012, activities on public lands generated \$4.6 billion in revenue, much of which was shared with the States where the activities occurred. In addition, public lands contributed more than \$112 billion to the U.S. economy and helped support more than 500,000 jobs.

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